

6/8



B O R O U G H O F S W I N D O N

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 4 0

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By:- LLYWELYN ROBERTS, M.D. (LOND), D.P.H.

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Public Health Department,
Civic Offices,
Swindon.

To The Chairman and Members
of the
Health &c. Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present an interim Annual Report for the year 1940. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health this report is presented in an abridged form. The arrangements regarding staff and treatment remain substantially the same, and the work has progressed despite the new calls on the department and the staff.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Committee and the staff for their kindness to me on taking up the post following the retirement of Dr. Dunstan Brewer, whose helpfulness and advice was most acceptable both before he left and at intervals since.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

During the year there were outstanding changes in the staff of the Public Health Department. Dr. Dunstan Brewer retired after twenty years of valuable service to the Swindon Corporation, and as his successor I commenced duties on the 1st October, 1940. Dr. David S. Clark, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, resigned on the 30th September, 1940; his place being taken by Dr. R. G. Smithson.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Home Nursing, Treatment Centres and Clinics, Hospitals.

There were no important developments or changes in the above services during 1940. During October, a proposal to link Swindon with the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Oxford was considered. At that time it was decided to continue with the association at Bristol University, but towards the end of the year, owing to postal difficulties, it was found advantageous to send specimens to Oxford, and the Service was very helpful in various investigations which were conducted.

In December, 1940, I reported on the ambulance service and the mechanical condition of the ambulances at present in use. Authorisation was given for the purchase of two vehicles for conversion into ambulances to replace the ambulances which were unsatisfactory. The Borough Ambulance Service is administered from the Isolation Hospital and the vehicles are housed on the premises.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The two buildings used for the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

continue to be occupied as Air Raid Precautions First Aid Posts. Use was made of the Town Hall for a Clinic until the end of November, when the Clinic was transferred back to 61 Eastcott Hill.

Swindon Maternity Home.

The Swindon Municipal Maternity Home is under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, who is medical superintendent. The Home is a recognised training school for Part II. of the course for the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board. During the year nine pupils were under training for the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board. Eight of these were successful in obtaining the Certificate, one failed on two occasions, and is now receiving further training. Three of the pupils were received from St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, and the other six from recognised training schools. There has been no change in the staffing arrangements.

ANNUAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE MATERNITY HOME 1940.

	Borough	County	Evacuee	Total
(1) Number of cases in the Home on 1/1/40.	11	5	nil	16
(2) Number of cases admitted during 1940.	496	187	69	752
(3) Number of cases remaining in the Home on 1/1/41.	17	7	8	32
(4) Average duration of stay				12-13 days.
(5) Number of cases delivered by:-				
(a) midwives	387	159	50	596
(b) doctors	60	12	7	79
Number of cases in which no delivery took place ..	49	16	12	77
(6) Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by midwives ...				194
(7) Number of cases notified as puerperal pyrexia	39			
	(20 notifiable under the New South Wales Convention which is in use at the Maternity Home. (19 are notifiable under the Puerperal Pyrexia Order.			
(8) Number of cases of pemphigus neonatorum..	2	-	-	2
(9) Number of infants not entirely breastfed while in the Institution				82
(10) Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum...	3	-	-	3
	One case removed to Gorse Hill Isolation Hospital, and two treated in the Maternity Home. Result satisfactory.			
(11) Number of maternal deaths, with causes..	2	-	--	2
	1 (a) Placenta Praevia (b) Ante-partum haemorrhage (c) Post-partum haemorrhage 2 (a) Cerebral haemorrhage (b) Eclampsia (c) Acute nephritis.			

(12) Number of infant deaths -

Stillbirths	33
Infant deaths	19

Cause of death -

Stillbirths	33
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Congenital malformations	9
Prematurity	18
Injury at birth	5
No obvious cause	1
	<u>33</u>

Infant deaths	19
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Congenital malformations	2
Prematurity	11
Injury at birth	1
Congenital malformation of the heart	2
Infantile convulsions	2
Sub-dural haemorrhage, rupture of a vein, delivery	1
	<u>19</u>

EXTERN MIDWIFERY DEPARTMENT

The Extern Midwifery Department connected with the Maternity Home dealt with 188 cases. Of these, 163 cases were delivered by midwives, 22 by doctors, and there were 3 abortion cases.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

The four domiciliary midwives, apart from the midwives attached to the Maternity Home, attended 260 deliveries.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SERVICE.

Five ante-natal clinics and one post-natal clinic are provided by the Council.

No. of women who attended at the Clinics	570	Ante-Natal.
during the year.	<u>43</u>	Post-Natal
	613	Total.

No. of attendances at Assistant M.O.H.'s Clinic	256
" " " at G.W.R. Medical Fund Clinic	1129
" " " at Matron's Clinic	1764
" " " at Specialist's Clinic	530

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES AND NURSING HOMES.

Dr. V. Redman King, Assistant Medical Officer, was Supervisor of Midwives and Inspector of Nursing Homes.

During 1940, 30 midwives (including 16 at the Maternity Home) notified their intention to practise within the Borough. 26 midwives were practising in the area at the end of the year - 5 domiciliary midwives and 12 midwives in institutions employed by the Local Supervising Authority,

7 midwives in private practice, and 2 midwives in institutions in private practice.

1252 births - 1204 live births and 48 stillbirths - were notified in the area. 687 births occurred in the Maternity Home, 40 in other institutions, and 525 in domiciliary practice.

The following forms were sent in by midwives:-

Artificial feeding	18
Notification of stillbirth	13
Notification of deaths in midwives' practice	13 infants
Notification of laying out of dead bodies	4 mothers 15 infants
Notification of infectious conditions and contact with them.	3

The following are the number of cases and the conditions for which medical aid was summoned by midwives: Engaged in domiciliary practice - 110; in institutional practice - 194; Total 304.

<u>Mother</u>		<u>Child</u>	
Ruptured perineum	133	Prematurity and feebleness	7
Labial lacerations	3	Cyanosis	1
Laceration of vagina	1	Deformity	7
Prolonged labour	39	Stillbirth	3
Uncertain or malpresentation	10	Discharging eyes	1
Pyrexia	14	White asphyxiated baby	1
Albuminuria	8	Convulsions	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage	14	Poor condition of baby	5
Post-partum haemorrhage	8	Rash	2
Retained placenta	5		28
Swelling of legs	4		
Uterine inertia	1		
Prolapse of cord	2		
Eclampsia	4		
Anaesthetic	10		
" for induction	1		
" for version	1		
" for Caesarian Section	4		
Toxaemia of pregnancy	5		
Premature labour	2		
Inflammation of breasts	2		
Poor condition of patient	1		
Rigid os	1		
Catarrhal cold	1		
Acute abdominal pain	1		
Pain in right leg	1		
	276		

NURSING HOMES

One Home which provides for 10 patients and can be used either for maternity or other purposes was on the register at the end of the year. One inspection was made during the year.

DENTAL ARRANGEMENTS

Arrangements have been made, with the approval of the Ministry, for the dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers by the School Dental Surgeons.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK DONE DURING 1940.

No. of patients seen -

Mothers	68
Children	<u>218</u>
Total -	286

No. of visits paid by patients	580
No. of administrations of gas	62
No. of teeth extracted under gas	297
No. of teeth extracted otherwise	24
No. of artificial dentures fitted	19
No. of teeth replaced (repairs)	4
No. of fillings	31

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

During the year 34 children from the Infant Welfare Clinics received treatment at the Orthopaedic Clinic for the following conditions:-

Rickets		Congenital Deformity of Feet		Knock-Knee		Congenital Deformity of Central Nervous System (Spastic paralysis)	
New	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old
3	2	8	5	2	3	1	1

Congenital Deformity of Hips		Diseases of Muscles		Rudimentary Thumbs.	
New	Old	New	Old	New	Old
-	1	3	4	-	1

PROVISION OF FREE MILK FOR CHILDREN AGED 1-5.

Up to the 31st July, 1940, free milk was supplied under arrangements outlined in previous reports. During the financial year the cost of milk supplied was approximately £790. On the 1st August, 1940, the Government National Milk Scheme came into operation, and the issue of free milk by the Council ceased. Dried milk and Virol continue to be sold at cost price at the Centres, as authorised by the Council. The necessary assistance was given by the Public Health Department staff to the Food Control Department in connection with the administration of the Scheme.

THE MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	
No. of applications granted...	206	205	181	283	565	528	303	
Total quantity of milk issued	7105	7627	7910	9638	12520	12902	6750	galls.
Total Cost (approx) £	720	825	856	1047	1429	1505	790	

OPETHALMIA NEONATORUM

Year	No. Notified	Cases of Infantile Ophthalmia due to Gonococcus	Where Treated					Result.				Not Notified as O.N.
			Home	Gorse Hill	Clinic	Matern- ity Home	Nursing Home	Cured	Blind	Injured	Died	
*1921	7	?	3	-	4	-	-	7	-	-	-	19
1922	21	?	2	-	19	-	-	20	-	1	-	16
1923	34	23	5	4	25	-	-	30	-	2	2	11
1924	15	13	-	3	10	2	-	15	-	-	-	12
1925	9	4	1	2	5	1	-	9	-	-	-	11
1926	8	3	-	-	8	-	-	8	-	-	-	22
1927	11	5	1	3	6	1	-	11	-	-	-	15
1928	4	4	-	2	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	30
1929	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	28
1930	11	8	1	4	6	1	-	11	-	-	-	58
1931	4	-	-	1	2	1	-	4	-	-	-	55
1932	5	1	1	1	4	-	-	5	-	-	-	49
1933	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	46
1934	4	-	2	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	52
1935	5	-	2	-	2	1	-	5	-	-	-	60
1936	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	35
1937	3	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	50
1938	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	37
1939	7	-	1	5	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	56
1940	6	1	-	4	-	2	-	5	-	-	1	41

* These figures are incomplete.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

48 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified in the Borough in 1940, against 35 and 57 in the two previous years. Of these, 39 occurred in the Maternity Home, where notification is based upon the New South Wales Convention, and of these, 19 were notifiable under the Puerperal Pyrexia Order.

Of the 9 cases occurring at home, 5 were removed to the Isolation Hospital, 2 were transferred to other hospitals, and in 2 cases home nursing was provided by the Council.

Two of the cases which occurred in the Maternity Home were transferred to general hospitals for operative treatment.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

In accordance with our custom in Swindon of investigating the death of every female between the ages of 15 and 50 which might be caused by or connected with the reproductive process, 6 deaths required investigation. Two occurred in institutions. The Registrar General accredited us with three deaths from puerperal sepsis, and two deaths from other causes. A complete report upon the investigation made into each case was forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health. Of the 6 deaths investigated, in three cases death might have been prevented, one by better ante-natal supervision, one by better ante-natal supervision or specialist treatment in hospital, and one by the intelligent co-operation of the patient.

The causes of death in the 6 cases were:-

1. Placenta praevia, uterine haemorrhage, ante-partum haemorrhage, and post-partum haemorrhage. This woman had ante-natal care by the midwife, and doctor, and was admitted to the Maternity Home for ante-partum haemorrhage. There was a history of pre-existing disease and this death must be considered unpreventable, for every facility was available and utilised.
2. Puerperal pelvic cellulitis. This woman had ante-natal attention by a municipal midwife and was also attended by her own doctor. She had an eventful pregnancy as she was involved in a motor car accident, and later in a train accident. Her physical condition was not satisfactory. On account of haemorrhage and pyrexia she was admitted to the Isolation Hospital. Death must be considered unpreventable.
3. Cerebral haemorrhage, eclampsia, and acute nephritis. The patient was a doctor's booked case and was admitted to the Maternity Home as an emergency. She was unconscious from eclampsia on admission. The ante-natal history was unsatisfactory.

4. 1(a) Pneumonia; 2- Confinement fifteen days previously. This patient was delivered at home and was removed to the Isolation Hospital where she died. Death was probably accelerated by a pulmonary embolism.
5. This case was the subject of an inquest, and the Coroner's findings were - "puerperal fever consequent upon inattention at child birth". Bacterium coli septicaemia.
6. 1(a) Oedema of larynx and toxæmia; (b) streptococcal tonsillitis (2) Secondary anaemia due to post-partum hæmorrhage. This patient was delivered in the Maternity Home, but on account of developing tonsillitis she was transferred to the Isolation Hospital. She recovered and was sent home, but five days later was removed to the Victoria Hospital for recurrence of uterine hæmorrhage, where an operation for curettage was performed. She later developed an acute streptococcal tonsillitis in the Victoria Hospital, and died in spite of a tracheotomy. There was no reason to consider her a case of puerperal pyrexia. Ante-natal supervision was satisfactory, delivery was normal, and the post-partum hæmorrhage was controlled very quickly.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

The six health visitors are the Infant Protection Visitors under the above Act. 24 boarded-out children were on the Register at the end of the year, and 40 supervisory visits were made. No proceedings were taken during the year.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VISITS PAID BY THE HEALTH VISITORS
TO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN AND TO CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
No. of first visits paid to mothers and children....	987	892	857	1039	1040
No. of revisits	3710	3818	3476	3212	3598
No. of visits paid to expectant mothers	114	161	111	64	59
No. of visits to cases of deaths and stillbirths	53	50	62	53	91
No. of visits to cases of tuberculosis	83	77	89	67	73
No. of visits paid to children aged 1 - 5 years	4112	4539	4245	3210	3258
	9059	9537	8840	7645	7928

RECORD OF WORK DONE AT THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES DURING THE
YEARS 1936 - 1940 INCLUSIVE.

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
No. of separate infants who attended the Centre at - Eastcott Hill	1223	1117	1346	1981	1805
Pinehurst	348	371	439	487	429
Gorse Hill	210	237	260	336	342
Rodbourne	215	216	235	222	226
Totals	1996	1941	2280	3026	2802
Number of attendances -					
Eastcott Hill	7533	8639	9133	10720	10520
Pinehurst	2333	2798	3379	3496	2344
Gorse Hill	1630	2269	2549	2869	3974
Rodbourne	1660	2373	2253	1800	1858
Totals	13156	16079	17314	18885	18696

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of all persons under the age of 25 which occur in Swindon, and of all Swindon children who die away from the town are investigated. Some knowledge of the previous history of these children is in the possession of the Health Office, and, in an increasing number, the full life histories are available. Since some children die in the institutions of Swindon who do not belong to the town, and certain other children who have regularly attended the Swindon clinics die elsewhere, these investigations become somewhat complicated. In the review which follows, cognizance is only taken of those deaths which the Registrar-General accredits to Swindon.

STILLBIRTHS

48 stillbirths were notified in the Borough in 1940, of which 33 occurred in the Maternity Home, 9 of which are accreditable to the county, 22 to Swindon, and 2 were evacuees. Some information of the stillbirths which happened in the Maternity Home is given in the report of that institution. 15 stillbirths occurred in private practice.

DEATHS BEFORE THE END OF THE FIRST DAY.

There were 11 of these - 6 males and 5 females - against 15 and 14 in the two previous years. 6 of them occurred in the Maternity Home, 5 being due to prematurity, the sixth from sub-dural haemorrhage. Of the remaining 5, one was a newly born body found on 1/9/40, death being due to shock combined with asphyxia arising from ligature of neck caused by a stocking being tied round it. 3 were due to prematurity, and one was a congenital malformation.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE END OF THE FIRST DAY AND THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK.

There were 11 of these - 5 males and 6 females - against 8 and 5 in the two previous years. 4 occurred in the Maternity Home, 2 being due to infantile convulsions, one was due to prematurity, and the fourth to congenital deformity. Of the remaining 7, one died in the Victoria Hospital from imperforate anus and prematurity (post-mortem examination). 4 died from prematurity, one from meningitis and one from congenital malformation, all at home.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK AND THE END OF THE FIRST MONTH.

There were 9 of these - 8 males and 1 female - against 2 and 5 in the two previous years. Two died in the Maternity Home, 1 from prematurity and the other from acute gastro-enteritis. The mother of this infant had cerebral Haemorrhage and was removed to St. Margaret's Hospital. Two infants died in the G.W. Hospital, one from maramus and prematurity, and the other from maramus and

congenital syphilis. One infant died in the Isolation Hospital from feebleness from birth and gonorrhoeal ophthalmia. 4 infants died at home from congenital debility and prematurity.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE END OF THE FIRST MONTH AND THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR.

There were 30 deaths - 18 males and 12 females - against 10 and 19 in the two previous years. The 30 deaths are analysed as follows:-

7 died in general hospitals - 1 from cerebro-spinal fever, one from tuberculous meningitis, one from pneumonia, 3 from congenital debility, and one from congenital malformation.

The remaining 23 died at home, 10 from pneumonia, one from influenza, two from bronchitis, two from gastro-enteritis, 3 from prematurity and debility, one from infantile convulsions, two from congenital malformation, and one who was the subject of an inquest, asphyxiated himself accidentally in his cot, and one from whooping cough.

Altogether there were 61 deaths below the age of one year, of which 31 died in the first month; this gives us a high infant mortality rate of 61.43, the highest in Swindon since 1930, when the rate was 62.82. Prior to this, 1924 was the last year when the rate exceeded the present high figure. The infant mortality rate in England and Wales was 55.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND YEARS.

There were 10 of these - 6 males and 4 females - against 4 and 7 in the two previous years. 4 died in the Victoria Hospital, two from cerebro-spinal fever, and two from broncho-pneumonia. 3 died in the Isolation Hospital, two from diphtheria, and one from cerebro-spinal fever. 3 died at home, one from cerebro-spinal fever, one from infantile convulsions, and one from status epilepticus.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE SECOND AND FIFTH YEAR.

There were 7 of these - 2 males and 5 females - against 6 and 8 in the two previous years. Two died in general hospitals, one from diphtheria, and one from shock due to scalds sustained by accident. This death was the subject of an inquest. Two died in the Isolation Hospital from diphtheria, 3 died at home, one from cerebro-spinal fever, one from broncho-pneumonia, and one from bronchitis.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE FIFTH AND TENTH YEAR.

There were 7 of these - one male and 6 females - against 4 and 3 in the two previous years. 5 of these deaths were due to diphtheria, the sixth

was an accidental death, and the seventh died in hospital from peritonitis.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE TENTH AND SEVENTEENTH YEAR.

There were 12 of these - 6 males and 6 females - against 7 and 10 in the two previous years. 4 deaths occurred in hospital; one died from diphtheria, one from cerebro-spinal fever, one from diabetes, and the fourth had rheumatic heart disease. Of the 8 deaths which occurred at home, 4 were due to heart disease, one had military tuberculosis, one died from influenza, and two as a result of war operations.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE SEVENTEENTH AND TWENTIETH YEAR.

There were 4 of these - 2 males and 2 females - against 1 and 3 in the two previous years. Two died in hospital, one from appendicitis, the other from staphylococcal pyaemia and septicaemia, and osteo-myelitis of humerus. One death from enteritis occurred at home, and one Swindon resident died out of the Borough as a result of war operations.

DEATHS BETWEEN THE TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR.

There were 12 of these - 5 males and 7 females - against 12 and 11 in the two previous years. 4 died in general hospitals, 3 from tuberculous meningitis, and one from acute nephritis. 2 occurred in the Isolation Hospital - one died from diphtheria, and the other was a maternal death from puerperal fever consequent upon inattention at childbirth. One died in a sanatorium from pulmonary tuberculosis. 2 accidental deaths occurred in Swindon residents outside the Borough. Of the remaining three deaths, which occurred at home, two were due to heart disease and one to acute bronchitis.

E P I D E M I O L O G Y

DIPHTHERIA- There were 150 cases of diphtheria - one was notified in the Victoria Hospital, and the other 149 were notified and treated in the Swindon Isolation Hospital. There were 15 deaths. This gives the high case mortality rate of 10 per cent. During 1939 there were 42 cases of diphtheria, with 2 deaths.

In January, 1940, diphtheria was of very large non-epidemic prevalence. From February to May there was little diphtheria, but in May there was a severe prevalence of streptococcal sore throat, and many cases were notified as diphtheria. In June and July there was a high incidence of the disease, and in September the disease had reached epidemic proportions. The type of diphtheria was very severe; investigations showed that the prevailing organism was of the gravis type. It is noticeable that nearly half the cases notified occurred in the age group 5 - 10. There was a large number of adults notified, and some of

the deaths occurred in persons who had been brought in in a moribund condition.

At the end of November an extensive diphtheria immunisation campaign was started. A complete report on diphtheria immunisation appears on page

SCARLET FEVER

There were 332 cases notified, and 2 deaths, against 106 cases and no deaths in 1939. Of the 332 cases notified, 302 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Of the cases, 230, i.e. 70 per cent. occurred in the age group 5 - 15.

During the first eight months of the year notification was average, but there was a definite increase in the incidence of cases of a mild nature during September. Notification decreased in November, but it was above the average at the end of the year.

PNEUMONIA

180 cases were notified, with 33 deaths, against 115 cases and 23 deaths in the previous year. Owing to difficult isolation accommodation only 4 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital; 38 were admitted to general hospitals.

Notification of pneumonia was high in the early part of the year, but most of the cases were terminal pneumonias in old persons, and few were true influenzal pneumonias.

ACUTE INFECTIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

There were 41 cases notified and 5 deaths from cerebro-spinal fever. During the first eight months there was a high prevalence of this disease. The epidemic was wide-spread and affected chiefly the south-western part of England, and reception areas in particular.

The one case of encephalitis lethargica removed to the Isolation Hospital was not confirmed, and recovered.

DISEASES DUE TO PARASITES OF THE GENUS BACTERIUM

These include the typhoids, dysenteries, and food poisonings. The one case of paratyphoid which occurred and was removed to the Isolation Hospital, was infected in Blackpool.

8 cases of dysentery were notified. All were mild, and recovered. No pathogenic organisms were found in specimens sent away for examination.

Under Section 17. of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1939, food poisoning or suspected food poisoning became a notifiable disease. One suspected case was notified, but investigation proved it to be insignificant.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

Measles and whooping cough were made notifiable in November, 1939. There was little whooping cough during 1940, but towards the end of the year we had an extensive outbreak of measles, over 500 cases being notified during the end of November and the month of December. This outbreak was not confined to any particular district.

7 cases of measles occurred in the Rest Centre at the Sanford Street Congregational Church School, where evacuees were temporarily accommodated. It was possible to limit this occurrence by injection of adult serum into the children who were susceptible. The few cases which did occur were mild in nature and some children escaped the disease.

TUBERCULOSIS

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

There was a notable increase in male deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and the death rate from respiratory tuberculosis - 0.46 - is the highest since 1934.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA

These are reported on under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. W. Roberts.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Civic Offices,
SWINDON.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1940.

By Dr. R. G. Smithson, Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

The method of immunisation used throughout the year was the same as in 1939, namely three injections of Toxoid - Antitoxin Floccules, with an interval of a fortnight between each injection. As far as possible each child was Schick-tested six months after completion of the treatment.

During the first eleven months of the year routine propaganda in the nature of advice by the doctors at the Clinic and from the Health Visitors, was the only effort at publicity. Facilities for immunisation were available at the Borough Clinic throughout the year on application, by appointment.

Although the total number of cases immunised during the year was not great, a pleasing feature of the return is the high proportion of children under the age of five years.

In the last month of the year a large propaganda campaign was planned and inaugurated in the schools. This measure was introduced as part of the national campaign for more intensive immunisation.

Every notified case of diphtheria is scrutinised to find out whether he has received a course of prophylactic, and it was found that of the 75 confirmed cases of diphtheria in children under 15, seven had received a complete course of inoculation, the large majority at least four to five years previously. It is pleasing to record that no death occurred amongst any children who had received a full immunisation course.

	<u>Children</u> <u>0 - 5.</u>	<u>Children</u> <u>5 - 15</u>
No. of completed treatments	160	64
No. commenced in 1940 (completed in 1941)	30	19
No. of defaulters	13	2
<u>SCHICK TESTING</u>		
No. tested to confirm previous immunisation	52	52
No. found to be negative	46	45
No. found to be positive	-	2
No. did not attend for reading	6	5
No. to test necessity for immunisation	-	10
No. found to be negative	-	8
No. found to be positive	-	2
<u>RESULTS</u>		
No. found to be completely immune	46	53
No. found to be not immune	1	6
No. of "not immune" given further injections	1	6
No. of re-schick results - negative	1	1
positive	-	-
Total no. of attendances for year.		<u>1054</u>

BOROUGH OF SWINDON

GENERAL

STATISTICS

Area (acres)	6062
Population: Census 1931	62401
Registrar-General's estimate of population ...	64840 <i>x</i> <i>Willi</i>
Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	64840
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) ...	17687 <i>x</i>
Rateable value (General Rate)	£389,602
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,550

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

		Total	M.	F.		
Live births	(Legitimate	919	484	435) Birth Rate ...	14.77
	(Illegitimate	39	19	20		
Stillbirths	(Legitimate	40	20	20) Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births..	42.95
	(Illegitimate	3	-	3		
Deaths		995	477	518	Death Rate ...	15.35

Number of women dying in, or in con-
sequence of childbirth -

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
From Puerperal sepsis	3	2.89
From Other puerperal causes	2	1.93
Total	5	4.82

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	61.43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	59.76
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	102.56
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	116
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	1
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	5

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table showing number of cases notified in Borough during the year 1940.

Disease	Under 1	Cases notified at various ages (Years)										65 and upwards	Total cases notified	No. of cases admitted to Hospital	No. of deaths
		1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65				
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	2	7	18	22	142	88	25	17	7	4	-	332	302	2
Diphtheria	1	4	6	8	13	61	24	17	15	-	1	-	150	150	15
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	36	7	-	-	48	5	5
Pneumonia	19	19	8	10	4	10	4	8	17	30	30	21	180	4	33
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	6	9	4	25	7	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	4	5	2	3	2	4	3	5	6	2	4	1	41	15	5
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dysentery	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	8	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	15	36	39	92	94	269	21	36	36	4	1	-	643	5	-
Whooping Cough	7	4	3	5	4	20	1	-	-	1	-	-	45	1	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	52	71	65	135	140	506	142	95	135	59	49	27	1,481	495	61

TABLE SHOWING MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS

Disease	Number of cases.												Total	No. of deaths
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	27	11	14	15	21	11	16	21	58	57	34	47	332	2
Diphtheria	10	6	6	7	9	18	17	12	28	14	9	14	150	15
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	12	9	-	4	2	2	3	4	3	1	7	48	5
Pneumonia	39	50	24	15	20	2	4	2	2	6	4	12	180	33
Erysipelas	2	1	1	2	3	5	-	1	2	3	2	3	25	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	4	6	7	3	9	2	4	2	-	-	-	4	41	5
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	5	8	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	6	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	16	56	11	1	6	15	10	3	3	36	484	643	-
Whooping Cough	4	3	1	2	-	4	6	5	7	2	2	9	45	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTALS	89	106	119	55	67	52	66	59	106	88	88	586	1,481	61

TUBERCULOSIS, 1940.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory M	Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F	Respiratory M	Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F
Under 1 year	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 10	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	-
20 - 25	3	4	2	-	2	1	-	1
25 - 35	9	9	1	1	2	7	1	-
35 - 45	8	7	1	-	2	4	2	-
45 - 55	6	1	1	1	5	1	1	-
55 - 65	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	35	23	15	6	17	13	5	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1940

TABLE SHOWING WHEN CASES WERE NOTIFIED.

When notified	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females:
One year or more before death	8	5	1	-
Less than one year and more than 6 months before death	-	3	-	-
Less than 6 months and more than 2 months before death	3	1	2	-
Less than 2 months before death	1	2	-	-
At or immediately before death	4	-	1	-
Unnotified (Cases who died outside the Borough and never notified to Swindon)	1	2	1	1
Totals	17	13	5	1

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED OF THE VARIOUS FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS AND THE DEATH RATES RESULTING FROM EACH FORM OF THE DISEASE FOR THE YEARS 1921-1940.

	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
No. of cases notified (all forms)	79	73	70	77	69	65	73	79	88	80	86	98	114	102	94	91	111	117	103	98
Respiratory Tuberculosis	58	53	42	54	52	40	42	53	62	52	41	57	69	70	56	66	75	75	68	63
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	30	20	25	21	21	26	28	35	41	40	37	23	40	45	30	42	42	48	59	42
Deaths from Tuber. Meningitis	2	2	3	3	3	1	5	1	5	3	3	3	6	1	8	5	4	12	6	11
Deaths from other forms of the disease	4	3	2	4	3	4	4	3	7	3	12	1	2	9	3	4	7	7	6	12
Total deaths from Tuberculosis	36	25	30	28	27	31	37	39	53	46	52	27	48	55	41	51	53	67	71	65
General Death Rate for all forms of Tuberculosis	0.56	0.41	0.49	0.47	0.45	0.51	0.61	0.64	0.85	0.73	0.84	0.44	0.82	0.96	0.71	0.89	0.93	1.19	1.27	1.17
Death Rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.46	0.33	0.41	0.35	0.35	0.43	0.46	0.57	0.66	0.64	0.60	0.37	0.68	0.78	0.5	0.73	0.74	0.85	1.05	0.75

REVIEW OF THE COMPARATIVE VITAL AND MORTALITY STATISTICS
FOR THE BOROUGH OF SWINDON, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FOR
ENGLAND AND WALES FOR THE YEARS 1901 to 1940 INCLUSIVE.

Year	BIRTH RATE		DEATH RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE		Illegiti- mate Death Rate
	Swindon	England and Wales	Swindon	England and Wales	Swindon	England and Wales	
1901	30.6	28.5	11.8	16.9	102.9	151	-
1902	28.3	28.5	12.7	16.3	104.7	133	-
1903	29.5	28.5	11.27	15.5	106.9	132	-
1904	30.0	28.0	12.49	16.3	111.2	145	-
1905	28.4	27.3	11.2	15.3	95.4	128	-
1906	29.4	27.2	9.9	15.5	86.2	132	-
1907	28.8	26.5	12.3	15.1	91.8	118	-
1908	28.9	26.7	11.8	14.8	101.5	120	-
1909	26.5	25.8	10.8	14.6	78.2	109	-
1910	23.4	25.1	9.7	13.5	86.8	105	-
1911	21.6	24.3	10.9	14.6	103.1	130	-
1912	23.4	23.9	10.3	13.3	76.3	95	-
1913	23.39	24.1	12.08	13.8	86.4	108	-
1914	22.5	23.8	11.5	14.0	73.7	105	-
1915	21.16	21.9	12.83	15.7	67.7	110	-
1916	18.9	20.9	11.3	14.4	72.4	91	-
1917	15.5	17.8	12.25	14.4	88.6	96	-
1918	16.53	17.7	15.13	17.6	81.3	97	129.63
1919	16.86	18.5	11.97	13.8	83.9	89	79.52
1920	23.25	25.4	11.64	12.4	69.0	80	122.44
1921	20.27	22.4	9.58	12.1	67.5	83	102.56
1922	18.98	20.6	12.17	12.9	60.5	77	121.95
1923	17.77	19.7	9.27	11.6	53.2	69	83.33
1924	17.11	18.8	10.78	12.2	63.01	75	192.30
1925	16.56	18.3	11.09	12.2	60.5	75	52.63
1926	17.09	17.8	10.67	11.6	47.95	70	193.54
1927	14.52	16.7	11.16	12.3	46.98	69	107.14
1928	15.63	16.7	9.92	11.7	36.26	65	51.28
1929	13.98	16.3	10.96	13.4	47.29	74	32.26
1930	15.66	16.3	10.77	11.4	62.82	60	157.89
1931	14.51	15.8	10.88	12.3	56.04	66	136.36
1932	14.31	15.3	11.68	12.0	52.99	65	37.04
1933	12.48	14.4	11.06	12.3	52.22	64	66.67
1934	12.66	14.8	11.11	11.8	55.84	59	115.38
1935	12.32	14.7	10.50	11.7	47.04	57	107.14
1936	13.13	14.8	12.15	12.1	46.84	59	88.24
1937	12.43	14.9	11.18	12.4	48.13	58	40
1938	13.06	15.1	11.64	11.6	54.36	53	76.92
1939	14.04	15.0	12.54	12.1	38.42	50	25.0
1940	14.77	14.6	15.35	14.3	61.43	55	103

BOROUGH OF SWINDON

CAUSES OF DEATH,
1940.
(Registrar-General's Official Returns)

Causes	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Diphtheria	7	8	15
Influenza	12	14	26
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	3	2	5
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	17	13	30
Other tuberculosis	5	1	6
Syphilis	6	2	8
Cancer	61	55	116
Diabetes	5	8	13
Cerebral haemorrhage	38	56	94
Heart disease	114	176	290
Other circulatory diseases	18	10	28
Bronchitis	42	37	79
Pneumonia (all forms)	17	16	33
Other respiratory diseases	7	14	21
Peptic ulcer	5	-	5
Diarrhoea under 2 years	4	1	5
Appendicitis	2	-	2
Other digestive diseases	3	15	18
Acute and chronic nephritis	14	9	23
Puerperal sepsis	-	3	3
Other puerperal disease	-	2	2
Congenital debility, premature birth etc.	19	15	34
Road Traffic accidents	6	2	8
Suicide	6	2	8
Other violence	18	11	29
Other defined diseases	47	44	91
ALL CAUSES	477	518	995

INFANT MORTALITY

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATIONS..

[illegible]